Question for written answer E-006648/2016 to the Commission

Rule 130

Dame Glenis Willmott (S&D), Judith Sargentini (Verts/ALE) and Beatriz Becerra Basterrechea (ALDE)

Subject: Antimicrobial resistance

Drug-resistant infections are a looming global challenge. The O'Neill Report, published in May 2016, estimates that by 2050 10 million lives a year and a cumulative USD 100 trillion of economic output are at risk, owing to a rise in drug-resistant infections. To tackle this growing issue, three key interventions have been identified by the Global Action Plan and by the World Health Organisation (WHO) secretariat in their development and stewardship report: improving stewardship and appropriate use of existing antibiotics; ensuring that innovation is driven by public health needs for future medical tools to diagnose, treat and cure infection; and affordable access to existing and new medical tools.

Does the Commission support the creation of a global antimicrobial resistance (AMR) development and stewardship framework under the auspices of the WHO?

Furthermore, the Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI) is investing a significant amount of public money in research and development projects on AMR (e.g. more than USD 6 million in the DRIVE-AB programme). When will the first results of the DRIVE-AB programme be published?

How will the IMI ensure that the dual public health objective on access and stewardship will be addressed in its other development programmes – in particular in the COMBACTE and TRANSLOCATION programmes?

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